

1 April 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

FDA

5630 Fishers Lane, Rm 1061

Rockville MD 20852

Re: Docket # 98N-1038, "Irradiation in the
Production, Processing, and Handling of Food"

Dear Gentlepeople,

The FDA should retain the current labeling law, the current terminology of "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation," and the use of the radura symbol on all irradiated whole foods.

Consumers have the right to know if this process has been used on their food whether whole foods such as fruits or vegetables or on ingredients of prepared or packaged foods. The label must remain clearly visible on whole foods or on the front of packaged foods.

We are totally unwilling to purchase or eat irradiated foods. Please continue clear visible labelling. Because of the newness of irradiation technology in the food industry and the unknown effects on human health over time, we believe the FDA's labeling requirement should remain in effect.

Sincerely,
Virginia St. Claire
Andrea Freeland

98N-1038

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